Loan agreement with Japan

2284. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan agreement with Japan has recently been signed; and

(b) if so, what are the names of the projects for which the said loan will be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir, On the 25th November 1985 five loan agreements were signed at New Delhi by Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India with Overseas Economic Corporation Fund of Japan for loan assistance of a total amount of Yen 39.231 billion equivalent to Indian rupees 197.4 crores approximately.

(b) The names of the projects for which the said loan will be utilised are as follows:—

(1) H.B.J. Gas Pipeline Project: Yen 15.8 billion or Rs. 80 crores approximately.

(2) Aonla Fertilizer Plant Project: Yen 9.5 billion or Rs. 47.6 crores approximately.

(3) Sardar Sarovar Hydro-Electrict Project: Yen 2.85 billion or Rs. 14.3 crores approximately.

(4) Ujjani Hydro-Electric Project Yen 1.5 billion or Rs. 7.5 crores approximately.

(5) Telecommunications Project (VIII) : Yen 9.581 billion or Rs. 48 crores approximately.

Minimum wages for Landless labourers.

2285. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the minimum wages of the landless labourers engaged on agriculture were fixed long ago by the various State Governments;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is need for upward revision of the minimum wages fixed by the State Governments;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to advise the State Governments to revise upward the minimum wages of the agricultural labourers in their States;

(d) whether Government propose to take any other steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) A statement indicating the latest position about the minimum wages fixed by the Central Government and the various State Governments/Union Territories Administions in the employment of agriculture is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix CXXXVI. Annexure No. 45.] As would be seen from the statement, it would not be correct to say that the minimum wages were fixed long ago by the various Stae Governments.

(b) to (e) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 requires the "appropriate Government" to review at such intervals as it may think fit, such intervals not exceeding five years, the minimum rates of wages and revise them necessary. However, the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations have been requested to follow the recommendation of the 31st Ses-